

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An expansion unit capable of being detachably mounted to an expansion bay of an information processing apparatus, the expansion unit comprising:

10 an imaging device;
 a moving member moving the imaging device
between a state in which the imaging device is
stored inside the expansion unit and a state in
which the imaging device projects outwardly from the
15 expansion unit; and
 a member capable of changing a direction in
which the imaging device is pointed when the imaging
device is extended from the expansion unit,
 the imaging device being detachable from
20 the expansion unit and supportable in such detached
state.

2. The expansion unit as claimed in claim 1,
further comprising:

30. a supporting member for supporting the imaging device on the information processing apparatus when the imaging device is detached from the expansion unit; and

a storage compartment inside the expansion unit for storing the supporting member.

a storage compartment inside the expansion unit for storing the supporting member.

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7. The expansion unit as claimed in claim 5,
wherein the cable is stored in the cable storage

compartment in a state in which the cable is disconnected from the imaging device.

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8. The expansion unit as claimed in claim 4, wherein the cable is stored in a wrapped state in the cable storage compartment.

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9. The expansion unit as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a connecting member that is connected to the information processing apparatus when the expansion unit is mounted in the expansion bay of the information processing apparatus; and

a connecting mechanism connecting the connecting member and the imaging device,

the expansion unit being connected to the information processing apparatus via the connecting mechanism and the connecting member when the expansion unit is mounted in the expansion bay.

10. The expansion unit as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a mechanism for preventing improper mounting of the imaging device on the expansion unit.

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11. A portable information processing apparatus comprising:

an imaging device;

a moving member moving the imaging device

5 between a state in which the imaging device is
stored inside the portable information processing
apparatus and a state in which the imaging device
projects outwardly from the portable information
processing apparatus; and

10 a member capable of changing a direction in
which the imaging device is pointed when the imaging
device is extended from the portable information
processing apparatus,

15 the imaging device being detachable from
the expansion unit and supportable in such detached
state.

20 12. The portable information processing
apparatus as claimed in claim 11, further comprising
a supporting member storage compartment inside the
portable information processing apparatus for
25 storing a supporting member that supports the
imaging device on the information processing
apparatus when the imaging device is detached from
the portable information processing apparatus.

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13. The portable information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 11, further comprising

35 a connecting cable storage compartment inside the portable information processing apparatus for storing a connecting cable for connecting the

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15. An imaging device comprising:
a lens assembly;
a first printed circuit board;
a second printed circuit board separate
25 from the first printed circuit board; and
a housing for accommodating the lens
assembly, the first printed circuit board and the
second printed circuit board,
the lens assembly being mounted on the
30 second printed circuit board, an intermediate
portion of a thickness in a direction of focus of
the lens assembly having a height identical to a
height of the first printed circuit board, the lens
assembly and the first and second printed circuit
35 boards being accommodated within the housing.

16. An imaging device comprising:
a lens assembly;
5 a printed circuit board; and
a housing,

the lens assembly being mounted on the printed circuit board, the housing accommodating the lens assembly and the printed circuit board, a focus
10 adjustment portion of the lens assembly being provided on an intermediate portion of a thickness of the lens assembly in a direction of focus of the lens so as to be exposed at a side surface of the housing.

17. An imaging device comprising:
20 a base;
 a body disposed at substantially a right
angle to the base;
 a connector disposed at substantially a
right angle to the base;
25 a connecting member that rotatably connects
the body to the base; and
 another connecting member that rotatably
connects the connector to the base.

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